RG104 E-1 Box 127 July-Nov 1882

E.A.L.

Treasury Department,
BUREAU OF THE MINT.
Washington, D. C., September 22d, 1882.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 21st instant, recommending an increase in the pay of the persons employed as watchmen on Sunday from $2.10 to $2.75 a day each.

In reply I would say I am very anxious that you should reduce the expenses of your Mint, as during the last fiscal year there was expended, over and above your regular appropriations, over $121.000.~ from the appro=priation for the coinage of the Standard Dollar; and I feel reluctant to commence the

year with an increase of pay, especially where the compensation paid, as in this case, has been at a fixed rate for a long number of years.

I would state that at the New York Assay Office, when persons are required to perform work of any kind on Sunday, they are paid at the rate of $2.50 a day, regardless of their regular compensation, and as the price of living in New York is supposed to be higher than in your city I would suggest $2.25 as a fair compensation for the Sunday watch, and would be willing to approve that rate.

If, however, you find it difficult to employ suitable persons at that compensation please inform me, and I will consider the propriety of increasing the pay to a higher rate.

Very respectfully,

Horatio C. Burchard

Director.

A. Loudon Snowden, Esq.,

Supt. Mint,

Philadelphia.

~~974~~ 913

D. M.

Wash. D.C.

Sept 22/82

H. C. Buchard

Is anxious to reduce Expenses. Thinks if 2 ~~Signal~~ Watchmen could be taught. If not, will consider the propriety of a further increase.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 127

[Abstract:] Is anxious to reduce expenses… 913

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